

In the claims

The following amendments are made with respect to the claims in the international application PCT/JP2004/016330.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1 (original). A β_3 -adrenergic receptor agonist substance comprising quercetin.

2 (original). The substance of claim 1, wherein the quercetin is derived from a plant.

3 (original). The substance of claim 2, wherein the plant is a *Nelumbonaceae* plant.

4 (currently amended). A pharmaceutical agent for treating or preventing diabetes, wherein the agent comprises ~~the substance of any one of claims 1 to 3~~ a β_3 -adrenergic receptor agonist substance comprising quercetin.

5 (currently amended). A pharmaceutical agent for treating or preventing obesity, wherein the agent comprises ~~the substance of any one of claims 1 to 3~~ a β_3 -adrenergic receptor agonist substance comprising quercetin, and has an effect of improving lipid metabolism.

6 (currently amended). A food for treating or preventing diabetes, wherein the food comprises ~~the substance of any one of claims 1 to 3~~ a β_3 -adrenergic receptor agonist substance comprising quercetin.

7 (currently amended). A food for treating or preventing obesity, wherein the food comprises ~~the substance of any one of claims 1 to 3~~ a β_3 -adrenergic receptor agonist substance comprising quercetin.

8 (original). A β_3 -adrenergic receptor agonist substance which comprises a lotus preparation comprising quercetin.

9 (new). The pharmaceutical agent, according to claim 4, wherein the quercetin is derived from a plant.

10 (new). The pharmaceutical agent, according to claim 9, wherein the plant is a *Nelumbonaceae* plant.

11 (new). The food composition, according to claim 7, wherein the quercetin is derived from a plant.

12 (new). The food composition according to claim 11, wherein the plant is a *Nelumbonaceae* plant.